

Milwaukee County

Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr., 10th District

For Immediate Release September 8, 2011 Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager 414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

THE STATE DOT HAS DRUNK THE WALKER KOOL-AID

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Eyon Biddle, Sr. released the following statement regarding the Wisconsin Department of Transportation official who instructed workers not to proactively tell citizens that Voter ID cards are available free of charge:

"First and foremost, I want to congratulate this top DOT official for his brilliance in exposing a hate-filled agenda in a memo format for us all to see. Clearly, Scott Walker has selected the brightest and the best in his administration.

"Let's just change the name of our state to <u>Wississippi</u>! Instead of using sugar, Scott Walker and his administration have spiked their kool-aid with hate, discrimination, obstruction of equality and many other ridiculous ingredients. This proves what most people already know: Governor Scott Walker's administration is hell bent on suppressing voter turnout in the state of Wisconsin. Their agenda is to make sure as few people vote as possible so that the Governor and Legislature can hold on to their power, continue to corrupt the democratic process, and taint our state.

"Silencing voices is not democratic. It is not American. Restricting the right to vote is despicable and deplorable. As an African-American, I recognize and understand the history of how people fought, bled and died for the right to vote. I find it appalling that we are turning the clock backward and invoking the yesteryears of Jim Crow in Wisconsin.

"Many residents in my district are affected by this blatant discrimination and obstruction to voting. Governor Walker and his allies in the Legislature want to make sure the people I represent don't have a voice. I will continue to fight to make sure that they do. I will use my bully pulpit to educate, agitate and organize the people in my community. We will not be defeated by these hateful, evil measures. Let's show Scott Walker and the misguided – but unintentionally brilliant – State DOT official that we will not be silenced. The Governor was right about one thing: This state is open for business! The voter suppression business, that is."